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JERRY PETROWSKI 86TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Rep. Petrowski Testimony on Senate Bill 61 May 3, 2011

Senator Lazich and members of the committee, I would like to thank you for taking the time to hear Senate Bill 61 today. This is a simple bill that will eliminate a sunset date on existing DOT permits and help retain jobs in my district.

In 2007, the legislature passed Act 171 which created special permits for trucks running on a specific route to operate at 90,000 pounds. The route runs between a 3M plant in Wausau and a quarry where they gather raw material to make roofing materials. The provisions of the law require DOT to issue annual multiple trip permits for trucks to use this specific route, but only under the condition that the local governing bodies of each municipality, or county having jurisdiction over the streets included in the route, have adopted a resolution approving the transportation of the load over these streets or highways.

An extra 10,000 pounds per load may not seem like a lot, but when they are running eight trips per hour all day every day it means a tremendous boost in efficiency. 3M has been an excellent corporate citizen and has assisted in upgrades to road beds where necessary to make sure this does not create undo wear on the roads or cost to the community. As a result we have kept 150 good paying jobs in the Wausau area.

3M has made a tremendous investment in road and equipment upgrades. This bill will simply allow 3M to continue what has been a very successful local agreement and help keep good paying jobs in Marathon County by eliminating a sunset date included in an amendment to the original bill.

It is worth noting, if there were ever a problem with wear on the roads, these permits are contingent on continued cooperation and agreements with local government.

Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any questions.



Testimony on Senate Bill 61 Senate Committee on Transportation and Elections May 3, 2011

Senator Lazich and members of the committee, I would like to thank you for taking the time to hear Senate Bill 61 today. I am sorry that I am unable to be there in person to deliver my remarks. This is a very simple bill but it is of vital importance to help maintain jobs in my district.

In 2007, the legislature passed Act 171 which created special permits for trucks running on a specific route to operate at 90,000 pounds. The route runs between a 3M plant in Wausau and a quarry where they gather raw material to make roofing materials. The provisions of the law require DOT to issue annual multiple trip permits for trucks to use this specific route, but only under the condition that the local governing bodies of each municipality, or county having jurisdiction over the streets included in the route, have adopted a resolution approving the transportation of the load over these streets or highways.

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Thank you for your time and consideration and I urge your concurrence of Senate Bill 61.